

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Restriction action dated 21 January 2004, the applicants elect claim group III, drawn to claims 1-3 and 5-8. Accordingly, claims 4, and 9-32 are herein cancelled without prejudice to their renewal in a subsequently filed application.

The elected claims are voluntarily amended to improve clarity of the claimed subject matter, and not for purposes of patentability. New claims 33-40 are added which repeat original claims 5-8 separately for independent claims 1 and 3. No new matter is added by the claim amendments, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter them.


Conclusion

It is believed that this document is fully responsive to the Restriction requirement raised in the Restriction action dated 21 January 2004. In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully urged.

Fees

This paper is submitted in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application as a response to the Office Action of 21 Jan 2004, which set a one month response period. Accordingly, no fees are believed to be due. In the event the Patent Office determines that fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account Number 18-050 in the amount of any fees deemed to be due.

Respectfully submitted


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